



James Milton Anderson

March 21, 1948 - January 26, 2025

James "Jim" Milton Anderson, 76, passed away on January 26, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. In his final days, he was embraced by laughter, cherished memories, and the deep devotion of those who meant the most to him.

Jim's greatest joy was his family. He is survived by his wife Linda Connolly Anderson, his three children Wendy Norman (Scott), Davin Anderson (Rebekah), and Erica Heister (Kurtis); his eight grandchildren Cade Norman, Blake Norman, Aaliyah Anderson, Kaiya Anderson, Eric Anderson, Reagan Heister, Saige Heister, and Alex Heister; his brother John Anderson; and his nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents Wallace Lars and Beatrice Marie Anderson, and his brother Wallace Lars Anderson, Jr.

Jim was born in Chicago, IL, and in 1957, he moved with his parents and two older brothers to Sarasota. He attended Sarasota County Schools, including Southside Elementary, Brookside Middle School, and Sarasota High School, where he played basketball and met his life partner, Linda, whom he married in 1969.

In 1970, Jim earned his bachelor's degree in business from Florida State

University and remained a dedicated Seminoles fan, rarely missing the chance to watch a game. His passion for FSU sports became a cherished tradition for frequent family gatherings.

Jim and Linda built a life focused on family. His support in all his children's endeavors was felt greatly, as he attended baseball games, soccer matches, and dance recitals. Jim was a generous father who gave his children an opportunity to begin their lives in full stride. He never missed a chance to tell them, their spouses, and his grandchildren how proud he was of them.

Family dinners and vacations were lightheartedly known as "family fun." Jim's sharp comedic timing was a defining characteristic of his personality. He was so funny! He could find irony in any situation, and his one-liners always drew laughter from any interaction, even with strangers.

Jim enjoyed a remarkable 39-year career at Banker's Life as a record-setting and award-winning insurance agent. He consistently placed in the top 10 over three decades, winning every field award and qualifying for 38 Annual Sales Conventions. Additionally, he was a 26-time President's Honor Circle qualifier. Nicknamed "Mr. Banker's Life" by his colleagues, he was the company's top producer, named 2003 Agent of the Year, and was the first to be inducted into the Banker's Life Hall of Fame. His legacy of consistent excellence is honored at the company's headquarters in Chicago.

In his retirement years, he remained active. As an avid golfer and member of the Sara Bay Country Club, he enjoyed weekly comradery and competition. Whether it be on the golf course or a weekly phone call, he nurtured the connections with his lifelong friends.

Beyond his professional success, Jim was known for his kindness and generosity. He held deep respect for veterans and law enforcement officers,

always taking the time to thank them for their service, even if it meant going out of his way to do so. His gratitude was reflected in his generous support of veteran organizations.

Jim's sense of humor, genuine interest in others, and loyal friendship left a lasting impact on those who knew him. His love, laughter, and unwavering support will be profoundly missed, but his legacy of kindness, humor, and generosity will live on in the hearts of those who cherished him.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Sara Bay Country Club on Sunday, February 23rd at 1:00pm. 7011 Willow Street. Sarasota, FL 34243

In lieu of flowers, please donate in Jim's name to any of the following organizations:

Tunnel to Towers Foundation: www.T2T.org

Wounded Warrior Project: www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Alzheimer's Association (Florida Gulf Coast Chapter): www.alz.org/flgulfcoast

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **23**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Sara Bay Country Club
7011 Willow Street
Sarasota, FL 34243

Tribute Wall

SC

“ *Special Condolences to Linda, Wendy, Davin and Erica and their spouses and Children.*

Jim was a very special person. I first met him in 1992 at a Bankers Life Convention. He was one of the first people I had met outside of our office in S.C. Jim and I became fast friends. His sense of humor was unique and incredible. He was so much fun to be around. We saw each other from that point on for many years at various Bankers functions.

One time Jim was wearing some Florida State Seminoles gear and I said; What about Clemson and it was Game On! We immediately decided we should make a tradition of attending that Football Rivalry together, so we did, for many years making it a Guys long weekend. Those were the best times getting to know one another away from Bankers. We laughed and just had a blast!

I miss him so much. He was a friend. He was a mentor. He was an Ambassador for Bankers Life.

Untill we meet again, Your Friend,

Scott Culley

scott culley - February 14, 2025 at 04:04 PM

JT

“ *Jim was a dear friend for over 50 years. I recruited and trained him at BANKERS LIFE and of the many I trained he was the Best one ever. He followed every direction I gave him with a positive attitude He took copious notes. We have all heard the sayingg you can take a horse to water but you can't make the horse drink but with JIM he drank the whole pond! When I met Jim he was selling shoes at Maas Brothers and I said to him why don't you get a real job and come to work with me at BANKERS and I will train you, and the rest is history!!*

James D Thompson - February 12, 2025 at 08:29 AM

RH

Oh, wow, Jim Thompson!! This is Rita Howell in Immokalee, FL, daughter of Orville "Dutch" and Margaret Rainwaters. My mom passed away July 17, 2011 with Alzheimer's. It was a tough road, but daddy persevered and was 94 years old when she passed away. I really didn't think he would last long, but lacked twelve days of being 107 years old. He passed away on December 22, 2023. He was tough and loved to work. We have fond memories Jim and Jim. Both were very kind to my parents and to my family. Jim Anderson will be sadly missed, but know he is in a better place 🕊

Rita Howell - February 20, 2025 at 05:23 PM

BR

I met Jim about (9) years ago through my friendship with Mac H. Jim's attentiveness, insight and humor were the foundation of his character. I loved riding with him on the golf cart as there was NEVER a bad day playing with him... joking about our self 'deprecating' golf skills, sports, politics, etc...After his health started to decline an occasional phone call was most enjoyable. Jim will be sorely missed by all that knew him - RIP my friend 🙏

Bill Russini - February 23, 2025 at 10:14 AM